

received strength. And he leaping up stood and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping and praising God."

(4) A clear, strong witness to the help that God brings to men in life's battle. What a benediction it is to point men to the true source of strength. The little Hebrew maiden was so humble that she could not approach the great Syrian. She only dares tell his wife. "Would God my Lord were with the prophet." And Naaman goes and is restored. Thus is it given to every Christian to say to earth's poor, sick, suffering souls, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."

Thoughts for Young People.

CONCERNING SIN AND SALVATION.

1. *The sinner is a cripple*, paralyzed by his sin, unable to move toward God, "outside the gate," and excluded from the highest and deepest spiritual privileges. He is "born in sin."
2. *The sinner is in poverty and need*, an object of pity to all who realize his condition. He is utterly unable to help himself.
3. *Salvation comes to the sinner while he is unconscious of it*, or seeking the commoner and lower gifts of life. All he thinks of is "silver and gold," or some other inadequate form of relief.
4. *Salvation comes to the sinner through human instrumentality*. There is always a Peter to extend to him the power of God, and to lift him up.
5. *The sinner who would be saved must exert himself*, and by God's help strive to do what he cannot do by nature.
6. *The sinner who would be saved must have faith* when the opportunity of salvation is presented. If he responds to the divine call, and acts with faith, new power will be given to him, and a transformation wrought in him.
7. *The first impulse of the saved sinner is to enter God's house and offer praise to God*. His next is to cling to good men.

Teaching Hints for Intermediate Classes.

HISTORY.

In the history of the development of the Christian Church we find that at the date of our lesson, and for some time afterward, the apostles, and perhaps most of the other Christians, attended the services of the temple and of the synagogue. This was because Christianity was the natural outgrowth of Judaism. It is helpful for the teacher to have this in mind, so as to be able to answer satisfactorily the natural

inquiries of the brighter pupils, but little time need be devoted to the subject in classes of intermediates.

INTRODUCTION.

Call attention to the fact that Peter and John were companions. (See John 18. 15, 16; 20. 3-8; Luke 22. 8; Acts 8. 14; Gal. 2. 9.) Let the teacher note the value of Christian friendship and of union in Christian effort, and urge the pupils to form companionships only with those who are Christians.

Question the pupils as to what they know about the temple, and, having given such information as may be necessary for a proper understanding of the text, take up the

NARRATIVE.

which may be considered in a series of four pictures:

1. *A man on the ground* (verse 2). How old is he? What is the trouble with him? How long has he been in this condition? Where is he lying? For what purpose? How did he get there? How often does he lie there? Did you ever see anyone like him? Where?
2. *Two men at the temple gate* (verses 4-6). What is the name of the gate? What are the names of the men? Where are they going? For what purpose? What does the man on the ground ask of them? What do the two men tell him to do? What does he do? What does he expect? What does Peter say? What does he do?
3. *A man exulting* (verses 7, 8). What three things is he doing? (verse 8.) Where was he just a moment ago? What has made this great change? The teacher should strive to make very clear the fact that it was the power of Jesus operating through Peter that made the man whole. (Compare verses 6 and 16 with Acts 4. 10 and 14. 8-18.)
4. *A crowd of people* (verses 9, 10). What do the people see a man do? What change do they behold in him? How do they feel? Why? What would you have done had you seen this miracle?

TRUTH EMPHASIZED.

Have the Golden Text repeated. Speak to the class of the power of God and of his willingness to help. Get and give illustrations of this from the Bible, from history, and from everyday life. Ask the class to tell what the Lord is able, ready, and willing to give to his children to-day. After as full an expression of opinion as time will permit group and impress the points under three headings as suggested by the Golden Text: